

1 - Belmont
1 - Rosen
1 - Sullivan

September 21, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

1 - Malley
1 - Branigan
1 - Mail Room
1 - Stokes

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to your letter dated August 28, 1964, dealing with the claim of Sylvia Odio that Lee Harvey Oswald and two other individuals visited at her apartment in Dallas, Texas, on September 26 or 27, 1963. Sylvia Odio in testifying before the Commission stated that the man believed by her to be Lee Harvey Oswald was introduced to her as "Leon Oswald."

In connection with investigation requested in letter of reference, there are enclosed two copies each of memoranda dated September 8, September 10 and September 11, 1964. There are also enclosed two copies each of a memorandum dated September 14, 1964, and the eighteen attachments thereto.

On September 10, 1964, we located one Loran Eugene Hall at Johnsondale, California. Hall has been identified as a participant in numerous anti-Castro activities. He advised that in September, 1963, he was at Dallas, Texas, soliciting aid in connection with an anti-Castro cause. He recalled meeting a Cuban woman, Mrs. Odio who lived in a garden-type apartment at 1030 Magellan Circle, Dallas, Texas. He said that at the time of his visit he was accompanied by Lawrence Howard, a Mexican-American from East Los Angeles and William Seymour from Arizona. He denied that Lee Harvey Oswald was with him during his visit to Mrs. Odio's apartment in September, 1963.

Hall stated that William Seymour is similar in appearance to Lee Harvey Oswald and that Seymour speaks only a few words of Spanish. In connection with the revelations

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Honorable J. Leo Rankin

Hall, you will note that the name Loran Hall bears some phonetic resemblance to the name Leon Oswald.

We have obtained photographs of Loran Hall and will attempt to obtain photographs of William Seymour and Lawrence Howard for display to Mrs. Odio. We are continuing our investigation into the claims of Sylvia Odio with particular emphasis on efforts to determine if Hall, Howard and Seymour may be identical with the three individuals who visited her in late September, 1963. The results of our inquiries in this regard will be promptly furnished to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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NOTE:

b7(c) Odio is a Cuban exile ~~(who has been undergoing psychiatric treatment)~~ Odio claimed that Oswald and two other men visited her in her Dallas apartment on evening of 9-23 or 27-63. It is not possible that Oswald was among this group as he was on 9-26 and 9-27 on busses en route to Mexico City. It appears reasonably certain, however, that Odio was visited in late September, 1963, by three men for her younger sister was present and confirms the visit although she did not talk to or meet the men. ~~It appears now to a point of some certainty that Hall, an ex-Castroite, with his associates Seymour and Howard, were the men who visited Odio.~~ Enclosed material has been approved for dissemination by Messrs. Belmont and Malley. The 9-14-64 letterhead has as attachments 18 FD-302 forms.